

The minutes reflect the impressions of the writer of the discussions and proposals and are not intended to imply or announce policy or directives. Refer to the specifications to determine MDT requirements.

July 19, 2006
MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting

Glen Frost opened the meeting with introductions.

MDT NEW BUSINESS

1. Summary of Specification Revisions. MDT distributed new proposed supplemental specifications that will be out for review starting August 1st. The four proposed supplemental specifications included: 108.02 – which clarifies actual begin work versus notice to proceed; 108.03.1 – clarifies timing of submittal of the schedule and approval; 407.02.1 – clarifies that CSS-1h and SS-1h are acceptable; and 620.03.6 – changes permanent markings from 10 days to 3 days. MDT also reminded MCA that the July distribution of Supplemental Specifications is still open for comment until the end of the month.

2. SiteManager. MDT requested two volunteers from MCA to turn in their equipment lists to be entered into SiteManager. MCA did express some concern about the case of two contractors using the same equipment. MDT did not feel this would be a problem.

3. Box Beam Guardrail. MDT informed MCA about improper installations taking place on Box Beam Guardrail and also some possible structural problems which may be caused by weather. MDT will change the Detailed Drawings and offer additional guidance to Contractor's and Field Inspectors.

NEW BUSINESS FROM MCA

1. Erosion Control Rate Schedule. In August, there will be an erosion control task force meeting. MCA mentioned that there is only one blanket on the rate schedule and bio-net and coconut blankets need to be added. MCA also discussed a possible price change on Silt Fence due to steel price escalation.

2. Force Account. MCA expressed some frustration about how and when EPM's are deciding to do Force Account when the agreed upon price is too high or the scope changes. MCA feels there should be some guidance. MDT informed MCA that most EPM's would rather go with the agreed upon price because of the extra paperwork associated with Force Account. MDT asked for good justification (itemized list) and felt that with this justification, EPM's will be more likely to go with the agreed upon price. In the end it is up to the EPM, but this decision is not made lightly.

3. Rental Rates. MCA stated that the blue book values do not represent the contractor's costs. MDT advised that the rates are updated every six months to keep up with inflation and that these are the national rates.

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4. Inconsistency. MCA doesn't think that the direction and decisions made in the meeting are always conveyed to the field. MDT stated that this inconsistency was also a problem for the Contractors and both need to work on getting the information out. Even if decisions are made at this meeting, they are not effective until implemented by MDT, which takes time.

5. Contract Time. MCA does not know how to bid with lump sum traffic control when traffic is affected on the whole job. MCA feels there is a need for a definition for "impact on traveling public."

AGENDA ITEMS

1. MSE Walls. MCA informed MDT that some projects designate what backfill will be used while other projects do not. MDT informed MCA that Geotech will specify backfill if the wall is important, whereas MDT will sometimes have the contractor design the wall (backfill included). MCA stated that not knowing what aggregate they need to supply is a problem because backfill is over half the price of the MSE wall.

2. CBC, CTS Tables 701-8 and 701-10. MDT is still looking for test projects.

3. Sulfate Soundness. MDT is still researching and will give an update when more information is available.

4. Pulverization. MDT is still working on the specification for pulverization and expects to have a draft version by the next meeting.

5. 2007 Engineering Conference. MCA suggested a class on the proper way/process for closing projects. MDT will look into this.

The next meeting will be **September 20th, 2006**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the **MCA Office**.